Steps to Keep Delhi Clean

4549. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "SC fixes civic code; no slims, no littering", which appeared in the Times of India, dated 18th February, 2000;

(b) whether as per court's assessment, Slum Department has not cleared any slum despite its being in existence for decade in Delhi and more and more slums are coming into existence;

(c) whether it is a fact that Delhi Municipal Corporation employees who were assigned to clean the city are invisible; and

(d) if so. what concrete steps are being taken by Government to keep Delhi environment clean as also Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore and Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Slum and JJ Department (MCD) is relocating only those Slum/JJ clusters whose encroached land pockets are required by the concerned land-owning agencies for implementation of certain projects of public importance and also agree to bear their share towards the cost of resettlement. Primarily, it is the duty of the land-owning agencies to ensure that no slums come up on their lands.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. MCD has reported that strict supervision to kept and action taken against those employees who do not attend their duties. In so far as other metropolitan cities are concerned, the matter falls within the jurisdiction of respective State Governments.

Fencing of Villages in South Delhi

4550. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of villages have been fenced in the South Delhi for forestation;

(b) if so, the names of such villages; and